



# UMass Extension 4-H Program

October 29, 2021

Weekly NewsBlast

The UMass Extension 4-H E-NewsBlast is sent to all UMass 4-H families and volunteers. Unless otherwise noted, all virtual programming is available to 4-H members everywhere, no matter where you live or what club or group you belong to! Check these sites and your local county Facebook page for more details and for updates to programs: <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h> and <https://www.facebook.com/Mass4H/>

---

## Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- November 1-15 - Massachusetts 4-H Foundation Auction
- November 1 - 7pm – League of Protein Producers
- November 2 - Understanding the 4-H Culture Zoom
- November 3 - Marketing 4-H Clubs & Recruiting, Training and Recognizing Volunteers
- November 3 - Career Exploration Series: Richard Harper
- November 4 – 7pm – Horse Chat
- November 30 – 4-H Club Officer Zoom Series: President/Vice-President

---

## Let the Bidding Begin at the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation's Online Auction

Looking for a unique holiday gift or something for yourself? The Massachusetts 4-H Foundation will hold its annual Online Auction from November 1-15 on the [Bidding for Good](#) platform.

Bid on experience gifts like Mohegan Sun, Storyland or Treetop Adventures, multiple luxury New England hotel stays, retail and restaurant gift cards and more! *100% of proceeds from the auction go directly to 4-H programming.* Support Massachusetts 4-H while you breeze through your holiday shopping! If you have an item to donate, please [visit our website](#).

---

## Animal Science Programs

Contact Carrie Sears with any questions or to register for any of the events below at [ccsears@umext.umass.edu](mailto:ccsears@umext.umass.edu)

### Zoom Meetings –

November 1<sup>st</sup> – 7pm – League of Protein Producers

November 4<sup>th</sup> – 7pm – Horse Chat

### Upcoming Events:

Equine Affaire – November 11-14, 2021 Eastern States Exposition, West Springfield, MA <https://equineaffaire.com/events/massachusetts/>

### Second Session of Horse Chat

Are you interested in what other horse leaders are offering with their own clubs, what opportunities are available to youth or to bring suggestions on what you would like to see offered in the 4-H Horse Program? Please join us on **November 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm via Zoom** to participate in an open discussion where everyone can share. Feel free to pass along to your county advisory members, parents and members. Meeting Link - <https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/99176056546>

### Bringing Animals to Public Events

Fall time is usually busy with community events and 4-H members bringing animals to visit with the public. Make sure to bring your Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) with you or if a canine, your most recent Rabies Certificate. Here is a good resource to review prior to your event -

<https://www.healthagriculture.org/training/livestock-poultry-public-settings/>

## **Four Strategies to Keep 4-H Animal Projects Warm in the Winter:**

By Nick Babcock, Michigan State University Extension



As the winter temperatures settle in, make sure you are keeping your 4-H animal projects healthy. Follow these four steps to help your 4-H projects perform their best this winter.

### **1. Make sure animals have plenty of fresh air.**

Although it seems natural to close all the barn doors in the winter, similar to how you seal your house up tight, remember animals are different. To help keep them healthy and prevent the spread of bacteria and viruses, make sure you have adequate ventilation.

### **2. Water, water, water.**

Whether providing water in a bucket, tank or automated system, it is important to check the water each day. If you are like many farms, you have probably experienced a frozen water tank or two. That is why it's important to check the water supply every day: realizing the issue and reacting to it are essential in keeping animals healthy and on track for market or reproduction. No matter what the temperature, make sure the water you are providing your animals is clean and easily available in adequate amounts.

### **3. Know what is in your feed.**

Knowing the contents and the quality of the feed you are offering to animals is essential in making sure they have adequate nutrition to meet their energy requirements. Researchers at Oregon State University mention the "lowest critical environmental temperatures for livestock vary according to species and researchers, but 20 or 32 degrees Fahrenheit are often used as the lowest temperature dry livestock can tolerate without additional energy demands to support normal body temperature." Paying attention to the amount of feed consumed as well as the temperature is important in keeping your animal on track.

### **4. Pay special attention to young and new animals.**

Younger animals, especially newborn animals, are more susceptible to the cold weather. When new animals are born, make sure they are dried off in a reasonable amount of time. Additionally, remember how crucial it is for animals to receive their first milk, colostrum. If transporting new animals to your farm, make sure you minimize the amount of stress they will encounter as well as provide adequate dry, minimal dust bedding to help reduce the effect of winter chill.

---

## **4-H Club Officer Training – November and December**

Come and find out about the different officer roles and their responsibilities? 4-H members are invited to learn about the leadership roles you might become involved with by attending this Zoom workshop series. Not all clubs have officers, but you can learn how you might help your club to develop these roles for 4-H members. Zoom sessions are on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-7:30PM. Register here:

<https://forms.gle/pWHbTaqDjZhMTbaaA>

November 30-President/Vice-President

December 7-Secretary

December 14-Treasurer

December 21-Club Reporter/Events Coordinator

---

## **Zoom Info series designed for 4-H Members**

Learn about 4-H history and how 4-H works from a behind the scenes view. This program is open to all 4-H members, whether new or returning! Join for one session or all four and discover more than you ever imagined about 4-H!

Meeting take place at 6:30PM on Zoom. To register contact 4-H Educator Tom Waskiewicz at [waskiewicz@umass.edu](mailto:waskiewicz@umass.edu)

- November 2 - Understanding the 4-H Culture.
- November 9 - Club Basics

---

## **4-H Volunteer Information Sessions**

Volunteers are encouraged to attend the upcoming sessions of 4-H 101 to learn more about the UMass Extension 4-H Program. Click on this link to register <http://forms.gle/Tu5zru4u2FoA4q3Z6>. Or reach out to VaShon Hiltbold at [vwallace@umass.edu](mailto:vwallace@umass.edu) with questions.

- Nov. 3-Marketing 4-H Clubs & Recruiting, Training and Recognizing Volunteers
  - Nov. 10-Recognizing 4-H'ers Accomplishments & Making Action Plans
-

## Career Exploration Series

The UMass 4-H Career Exploration Series is a virtual Zoom series that brings youth and professionals together. Presenters discuss what their job REALLY entails, what it took to get where they are now, and maybe some opportunities that may have happened along the way. Youth can either talk directly with the presenter or put their comments or questions in the chat box!

November 3	<p>Richard Harper, PhD</p> <p>Extension Associate Professor of Urban &amp; Community Forestry</p> <p>University of Massachusetts, Amherst</p> <p>Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/2YIUXMw">https://bit.ly/2YIUXMw</a></p>	<p>Richard W. Harper, PhD, is an Extension Associate Professor of Urban &amp; Community Forestry @ the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Rick is a Past-President of the International Society of Arboriculture - New England Chapter (NEC ISA) and is an ISA Board Certified Master Arborist. He currently teaches courses in urban &amp; community forestry and human dimensions of natural resources and administers an applied integrated research and extension program in urban forestry. He received his Ph.D. in Forest Resources-Arboriculture from UMass, an MS in Entomology from the University of Nebraska Lincoln. He is a recipient of ISA's 'Early Career Scientist' award and the 'Public Education Award' from Tree Canada.</p>
November 17	<p>Young Min Moon</p> <p>Department Chair and Professor Department of Art, College of Humanities and Fine Art UMass Amherst</p> <p>Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/3AhjMgx">https://bit.ly/3AhjMgx</a></p>	<p>Born in South Korea, Young Min Moon immigrated to Canada when he was sixteen. After being in a hard rock band for a few years as a lead guitarist, Moon heard a 'calling' when he encountered van Gogh's paintings in a library. He gradually shifted his main interest from music to art. After finishing his college in Toronto, he obtained his master's degree in California. After working as a coordinator for a large international exhibition in Gwangju, South Korea, he moved to Cambridge, MA to work as a teaching assistant for a former professor in California, who got a job at Harvard. Although his years at Harvard were pretty miserable, he learned a great deal about the art of teaching.</p> <p>After a number of years of being confused, Moon eventually got a full-time teaching job in Florida and worked hard to become a good teacher. After he moved back to the northeast, he started writing about art. When he published his first book, Moon became known as a critic and expert in contemporary Korean art. While he was honored to be recognized as a writer, his art took a backseat. For years Moon tried to bring a good balance between his own art, writing, teaching, and being a parent. Over the past three decades Moon has had some successes in his art, but he also had many failures and rejections. But he doesn't let failures and rejections affect him very much. He keeps on making paintings, while writing and teaching. Moon is a painter at heart and feels happiest when he begins a painting. Recently he has been painting the motif of a low dinner table full of delicious foods for ghosts of ancestors. He is a professor and chair of the department of art at UMass Amherst.</p>
December 1	<p>Abigail Franklin Archer</p> <p>Fisheries &amp; Aquaculture Specialist</p> <p>Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/3net1bS">https://bit.ly/3net1bS</a></p>	<p>Abigail Franklin Archer works as a Fisheries &amp; Aquaculture Specialist with two organizations – Barnstable County and Woods Hole Sea Grant. She is a marine scientist and earned her Master's in Wildlife &amp; Fisheries Conservation from UMass Amherst. She does scientific experiments and observation studies on a variety of animals such as oysters, quahogs, and a type of fish called river herring. All her work involves cooperating with town natural resources managers and shellfish aquaculture growers.</p>

### STEM Updates/Dates: Contact Kim Pond with questions or for more details

1. Activities and opportunities connected to the UMass 4-H Google Grant: Computer Science and the 4-H program Open Session
  - a. So far, teen leaders, volunteers, staff and partners have taken part in many activities and programs
  - b. Upcoming Event: Monday, December 6th at 7pm to kick off Computer Science Week by ZOOM
  - c. Learn how this relates to other 4-H projects such as Horses, Dogs, Clothing and Textiles
  - d. Ways to learn more? Find trainings and resources at the CS Science resource HUB <https://click2computerscience.org/>
  - e. Resources available from 2018 & 2019 NYSD kits, Ozobots, 3-D printers, e-textiles and more.
2. Explore UMass at UMass Amherst- **Save the dates of June 26-28, 2022**
3. Second Annual STEAM Festival - Looking for youth and adult interested in helping to work on this NEW event that will kick off its second year in December with CS Week. (Awards will take place by 3/14/22) Reach out to Kim Pond
4. NERD Summit at Amherst 3/18th-20th MA 4-H can sponsor youth/adults interested in attending <https://nerdsummit.org/>
5. 2022 National 4-H STEM Summit September 15-18 in Washington D.C.- Teens interested in being a part of the delegation should Contact Kim Pond

### 4-H Club Grants

Did you know that the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation raises funds to support 4-H programming throughout Massachusetts? This independent non-profit partner offers many opportunities for clubs, including 4-H club or council grants! These grants are available for special projects or needs that the group has which support the educational program and 4-H priorities. Grants are not meant to be used for member awards, travel expenses, tee shirts, etc. Grants are awarded quarterly. Applications are reviewed on March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31. You can find out more details and obtain a grant application by visiting <https://www.mass4hfoundation.org/for-families-clubs/grants-and-awards/>

## Let's talk telescopes!

Have you launched into this year's STEM Challenge "Galactic Quest" and assembled your telescope? The smaller versions found in Galactic Quest are a great way to examine how a telescope works, but make sure your objects are at the suggested distance for the activity. (Remember telescopes help us see things from a great distance.) Check out your local observatory for local events in your area or consider going outdoors with some binoculars to view the moon or watch for the Orionid's meteor shower happening now.

**SOME BACKGROUND:** A refracting telescope (refractor) such as the one supplied in the kit uses lenses to gather and focus light, while a reflecting telescope (reflector) uses a mirror. The refracting telescope can gather more light into the lens than you can gather with the naked eye revealing a brighter, clearer, and magnified (larger) image of the object being observed. This is accomplished by focusing (refracting or bending) the parallel light onto a focal point.

Learn more about the difference here: <https://www.telescopeguide.org/reflecting-vs-refracting-telescopes-key-differences/>.  
Some more facts about telescopes:

- Not all telescope use light. An example is the Chandra telescope coordinated at the Center for Astrophysics Lab in Cambridge.
  - <https://chandra.si.edu/fieldtrip/index.html>
  - <https://youtu.be/uawVVWCRc>
- The most popular telescope is the Hubble Telescope that just celebrated its 30th birthday in 2020
  - <https://www.nasa.gov/content/hubbles-30th-anniversary>
- This year's STEM Festival will feature an Astro Poetry Contest! Explore images and find your favorite and watch for more details.
- Enjoy learning more about telescopes and space and even check out how you can request your own images from working telescopes. You can edit the images using image processing software to explore the universe.
  - Micro-observatory Challenge: Observe with NASA and submit your photo <https://mo-www.cfa.harvard.edu/OWN/astrophoto/microobservatorychallenge.html>

---

**Safety Measures and precautions:** UMass Extension 4-H not only requires everyone to wear a mask in any UMass building, including 4-H offices, but also for adult volunteers and youth members at 4-H club meetings or events. COVID guidance can change daily; following daily guidance of the CDC and UMass 4-H when holding 4-H club meetings is required. See below for more details. Thank you for helping to keep our 4-H members safe and healthy!

- Any 4-H club meetings or events held indoors: Masks must be worn by all participants and adults. All CDC/health guidance must be followed regarding social distancing at the time of the event or meeting.
- Any 4-H club meeting or event involving youth under 12: Masks must be worn by all participants and adults. Youth must be socially distanced according to CDC guidelines at the time of the meeting or event.
- Any outdoor 4-H club meetings or event: Masks must be worn by all participants and adults if youth under 12 are present. Youth must be socially distanced according to CDC guidelines at the time of the meeting or event.

---

## **Registration in UMass Extension 4-H**

Have you re-enrolled for the New 4-H Year yet? There are resources to assist you on the UMass Extension 4-H website at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/about/4h-online>

Having trouble? Here are some tips:

- In 4honline you should see a logo that is a circle with the initials rm in the center. If you do not see that logo, you may be using an old link or one you have bookmarked. Delete your old bookmark and instead go to <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>
  - Membership Payment is found at the UMass 4-H website ( <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h>) Scroll down and look for the yellow "Membership Payment" tab on the right side of the page.
  - You can reset your password in case you forgot what it is!
  - If your e-mail has changed, or you are not sure which email address you used to log in, don't worry! Reach out to your local office and they can either look it up or reset it for you.
  - Anyone who is a new member or interested in joining UMass Extension 4-H must contact their local 4-H educator to obtain the proper paperwork. A list of educators is at the end of the NewsBlast.
-

## UMass Extension 4-H Offices and Contact Information:

All those visiting UMass facilities, including 4-H offices, are required to wear face coverings in all indoor public spaces, including entries, exits, elevators, meeting rooms, restrooms and in all shared offices and work areas. This applies to vaccinated and non-vaccinated individuals. Thank you for your cooperation!

Please note that at this time, not all offices are staffed daily. Should you plan to visit one of the 4-H offices, be sure to call first to be sure that the office will be open. Thank you.

State 4-H Office: 100 Venture Way, Suite 334; Hadley MA 01035  
Linda Horn, UMass Extension 4-H Program Director – [lrhorn@umext.umass.edu](mailto:lrhorn@umext.umass.edu)  
Carrie Sears, 4-H Animal Science Program Manager – [ccsears@umext.umass.edu](mailto:ccsears@umext.umass.edu)  
Deb Comeau – State 4-H Administrative Assistant – [dcomeau@umext.umass.edu](mailto:dcomeau@umext.umass.edu)

Western MA: Franklin, Hampshire, Hampden and Berkshire Counties  
100 Venture Way, Suite 334; Hadley MA 01035

Tom Waskiewicz, 4-H Educator – [waskiewicz@umext.umass.edu](mailto:waskiewicz@umext.umass.edu)  
Angelica Paredes, 4-H Educator – [angelica@umext.umass.edu](mailto:angelica@umext.umass.edu)  
Lauren DuBois, Urban 4-H Educator – [ldubois@umext.umass.edu](mailto:ldubois@umext.umass.edu)  
Lizmarie Lopez Ortiz, Urban 4-H Program Assistant - [llopezortiz@umext.umass.edu](mailto:llopezortiz@umext.umass.edu)

Central and Southeastern MA: Auburn 4-H Office: 7 Midstate Drive, Suite 102; Auburn MA 01501  
Bristol and Norfolk Counties:

Cynthia A. Bushey, 4-H Educator – [cabushey@umass.edu](mailto:cabushey@umass.edu)  
Kim Henderson, Administrative Assistant – [khenders@umext.umass.edu](mailto:khenders@umext.umass.edu)

Worcester County:

Meg McDermott, 4-H Educator – [memcdermott@umass.edu](mailto:memcdermott@umass.edu)  
Martina Jasiewicz, Administrative Assistant – [mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu](mailto:mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu)

State 4-H STEM Program Manager:

Kim Pond – 4-H SET Program Manager – [kima@umext.umass.edu](mailto:kima@umext.umass.edu)

Northeastern MA: Essex, Middlesex & Suffolk Counties:

Mt. Ida Campus, Hallden Hall; 100 Carlson Avenue, Newton, MA 02459

VaShon Wallace-Hiltbold, Acting 4-H Educator – [vwallace@umext.umass.edu](mailto:vwallace@umext.umass.edu)  
Pam LeFave, Program Assistant – [plefave@umext.umass.edu](mailto:plefave@umext.umass.edu)  
Debbie Beaubien, Administrative Assistant – [debbieb@umext.umass.edu](mailto:debbieb@umext.umass.edu)  
Nancy McCarthy, Program Assistant – [nmccarthy@umext.umass.edu](mailto:nmccarthy@umext.umass.edu)

Plymouth County: 44 Obery Street, Plymouth MA 02360

Molly Vollmer, 4-H Educator: [mvollmer@umext.umass.edu](mailto:mvollmer@umext.umass.edu)  
Cathy Acampora, 4-H Educator: [acampora@umext.umass.edu](mailto:acampora@umext.umass.edu)  
Tia Quinn, Administrative Assistant: [tquinn@plymouthcountyma.gov](mailto:tquinn@plymouthcountyma.gov)

Barnstable County: Box 367, Barnstable MA 02630

Sandi Shepherd-Gay, Barnstable County Youth Extension Educator:

[sandi.shepherdgay@barnstablecounty.org](mailto:sandi.shepherdgay@barnstablecounty.org)

Dawn Johnson, Administrative Assistant: [dawn.johnson@barnstablecounty.org](mailto:dawn.johnson@barnstablecounty.org)



UMass Extension is a unit of the Center for Agriculture, Food & the Environment in the College of Natural Sciences. UMass Extension is an equal opportunity provider & employer, United States Department of Agriculture cooperating. Contact your local UMass Extension office for information on disability accommodations or the UMass Director if you have concerns related to discrimination, 413-545-4800 or refer to [www.extension.umass.edu/civilrights](http://www.extension.umass.edu/civilrights).

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST